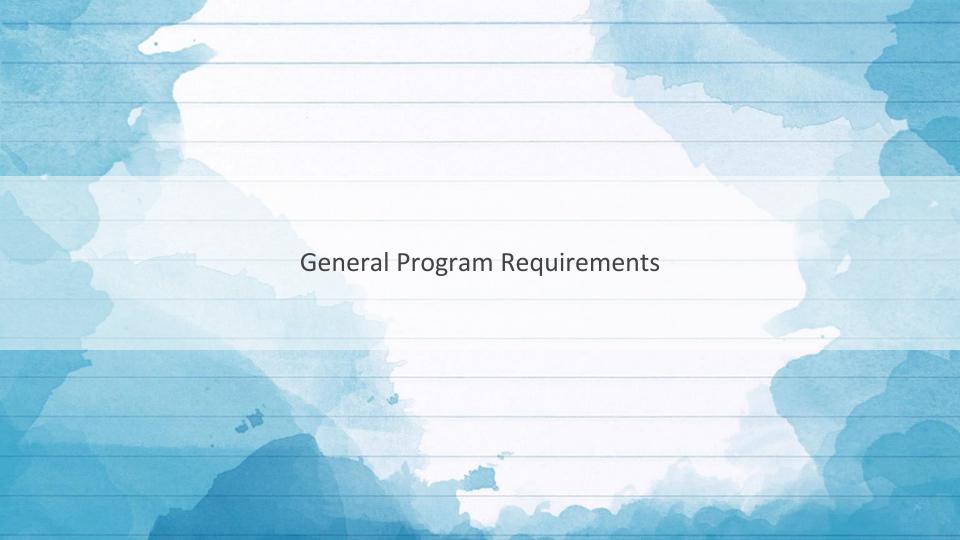
# Louisiana Believes

School Meal Programs
Program Updates
9/9/2020





## Point of Service Requirement for ALL Programs

- The <u>location</u> in a serving line where a determination can accurately be made that a reimbursable meal has been served to an eligible child.
- Counts must be made at the point the child (or parent with appropriate documentation) receives a meal that contains all USDA required components in required quantities.
- The purpose is to determine a reimbursable meal is provided to an eligible child.
- The Program Sponsor MUST be able to verify that that they viewed EACH and EVERY meal counted, to later be claimed for federal financial reimbursement, as meeting USDA program requirements.

### **Unacceptable Counting Methods**

- Attendance Counts
- Tray or Entrée Counts
- Classroom Counts
- Counts Anywhere But The Point of Service
- Cash converted to Meals
- Delivery Counts of Meals

# Meal Service for Virtual Learning Students

In accordance with the waivers in place for School Year 2020-2021, meals may be provided to students with up to <u>5 breakfast</u> and <u>5 lunch</u> meals per 5 day school week. This is for ALL Child Nutrition Programs (SSO/SFSP or NSLP/SBP)

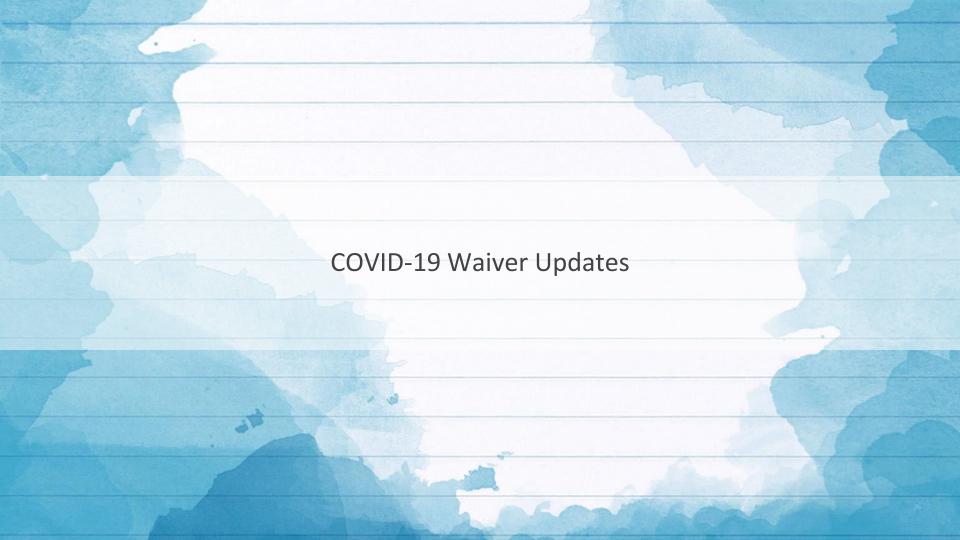
Keep in mind that if school is closed for a holiday, meals may only be provided for the days school is in session, whether it be virtual or face to face learning. In the scenario that 2 days in a week are holidays for Thanksgiving, then 3 breakfast (SBP) meals and 3 lunch (NSLP) meals may be provided for that week for each enrolled student, but no more.

A guardian, such as a babysitter, tutor or grandparent may pickup meals for enrolled students if a <u>parent/guardian meal pickup form</u> that is completed with a parent signature and provided at the school site where meals are distributed for pickup.

#### Non-traditional Meal Service Options

Any school system considering home delivery <u>MUST</u> contact the State Agency prior to beginning operations.

The SA is in contact with USDA and LDH regarding processes for non-traditional meal service models (i.e. delivery of meals to households or mobile feeding – multi-stop – scheduled routes)



### Nationwide Waiver Extensions through December 31, 2020

- Nationwide Waiver to Allow Summer Food Service Program and Seamless Summer Option Operations through December 2020
- Nationwide Waiver to Allow Meal Pattern Flexibility in the Summer Food Service Program – EXTENSION 7
- Nationwide Waiver to Extend Area Eligibility Waivers EXTENSION 2
- Nationwide Waiver to Allow Parents and Guardians to Pick Up Meals for Children -EXTENSION 4
- Nationwide Waiver to Allow Non-congregate Feeding in Summer Food Service Program and the National School Lunch Program Seamless Summer Option- EXTENSION 4

# Nationwide Waiver Extensions through December 31, 2020 (continued)

- Nationwide Waiver to Allow Area Eligibility for Closed Enrolled Sites in the Summer Food Service Program and the National School Lunch Program Seamless Summer Option - EXTENSION
- Nationwide Waiver to Waive First Week Site Visits in the Summer Food Service Program- EXTENSION
- Nationwide Waiver of Meal Service Time Restrictions in the Summer Food Service
   Program and the National School Lunch Program Seamless Summer Option- EXTENSION
- Nationwide Waiver to Allow Offer Versus Serve Flexibilities in the Summer Food Service Program -EXTENSION

## Extension of SFSP or SSO through December 31, 2020

 On August 31, 2020, USDA issued a nationwide waiver allowing the Summer Food Service Program (SFSP) and Seamless Summer Option (SSO) to continue through December 31, 2020, or until available funds run out (whichever comes first).



## Options for School Food Authorities (SFAs)

- For SFAs that participate in the School Meals Programs, this flexibility will provide two options available for providing meals to children:
  - 1. to continue to operate the traditional School Meals Programs (NSLP/SBP) with available flexibilities
  - to serve children through one of the Summer Meals Program Options (SFSP or SSO) with available flexibilities

### Continue NSLP/SBP

- If the SFA chooses to operate NSLP, the decision must be districtwide. An SFA cannot operate NSLP and a summer program at the same time
- May continue to offer After-school snack (with required enrichment component)

\* ALL SFAs (regardless of meal option chosen) MUST complete the online school year application for NSLP/SBP participating

## Transition to SFSP/SSO until December 31, 2020\*

- If the SFA chooses to operate SFSP or SSO, the decision must be districtwide. An SFA cannot operate NSLP and a summer program at the same time
- SFAs may start serving immediately upon making their decision regarding the meal program.
  - Initial decisions can be made by completing the survey sent to all CNP directors
    - If the SFA needs to change the decision, please re-submit the survey
  - Once a decision is made, SFAs MUST submit an application for participation for SFSP or SSO

<sup>\*</sup>Allowed through December 31, 2020 <u>or</u> until funding is no longer available, whichever comes first. After December 31, 2020 or upon USDA notification that funds for SFSP/SSO are no longer available, the SFA will be required to transition back to meal service operations under NSLP/SBP.

**Submitting Waivers in the Child Nutrition Website** 

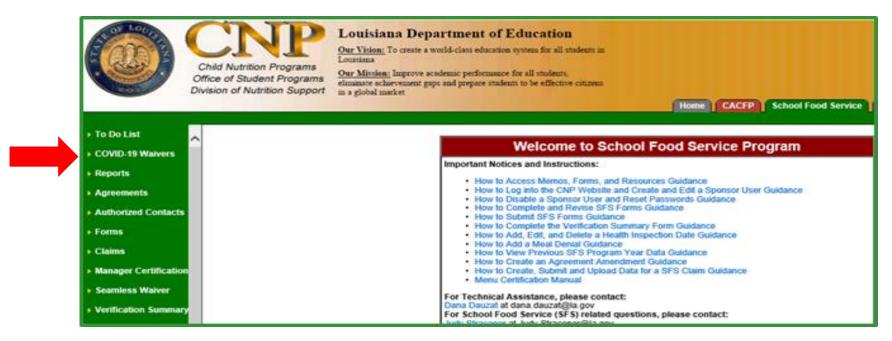
Seamless Summer Option (SSO) and Summer Food Service Program (SFSP) waivers can be submitted through the Child Nutrition Program website (<a href="http://cnp.doe.louisiana.gov">http://cnp.doe.louisiana.gov</a>) under the designated program tab.

#### 1. Previously submitted waivers:

Please review submitted waivers to ensure that your selections still apply.

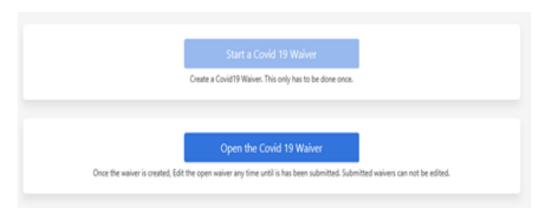
• If you need to make changes to the COVID-19 please email Brittany O'Bryan, Brittany.OBryan@la.gov to have your waivers released back for editing.

2.Click COVID-19 Waivers on the program list to access the available waivers.

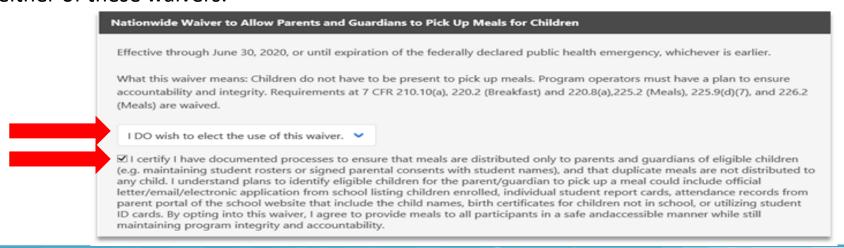


#### 3. Accessing the COVID-19 Waivers:

- Initial waiver submission: If this is the first time a waiver is being submitted click <u>Start a</u>
   COVID-19 Waiver
- Previously submitted & approved waivers: If a waiver was previously submitted and approved via the electronic waiver request form, click <u>Open the COVID-19 Waiver</u>



4. Elect or Decline: Once the waiver screen is open the user should read each waiver carefully and either **Elect** OR **Decline** the use of each waiver from the dropdown list provided. The Meal Pattern Flexibility and the Parent/Guardian Meal Pickup require an additional selection if utilized. The user should read and check "I certify" if electing to use either of these waivers.



- 5. Save and Submit: Once all waivers have been elected or declined the user will <u>Save</u> and <u>Submit</u> the COVID-19 waiver request. An error message will appear if all waivers are not addressed and certified where needed. The user will need to address all errors indicated to enable the save and submission button. The COVID-19 Waivers homepage will provide the submission date.
- 6. Reminder! If a revision or addition needs to be made to the waiver request tab please email Brittany O'Bryan, Brittany.OBryan@la.gov to have the waiver released back for edits.



#### Summer Programs: SSO vs SFSP

SSO	SFSP
Standard NSLP/SBP reimbursement rates apply for SSO (as approved for the current SY through 6/30).	SFSP reimbursement rates apply (these exceed traditional NSLP/SBP rates).
NSLP/SBP Meal Patterns <u>must</u> be followed in the SSO.	NSLP/SBP Meal Pattern <u>may</u> be followed by SFAs or they may default to the SFSP meal pattern, as other sponsor types use.

<sup>\*</sup>Note that both programs allow for sponsors to establish free meal issuance through "area eligibility" and may allow sites to participate as open, restricted open (RO) or Closed-Enrolled (CE) sites, as appropriate.

#### Allowable Meal Combinations for SFSP and SSO

- Breakfast only
- Lunch only
- Supper only
- Snack only
- Lunch and snack
- Breakfast and lunch
- Breakfast and snack
- Supper and snack
- Two snacks

At open, restricted open, and closed-enrolled sites, sponsors may serve a maximum of two meal types per day, utilizing any meal combination displayed to the right of this slide (note that lunch and supper may not be chosen as the selected two types).

### **SFSP** Approval of Sponsors

- The State agency must use the following priority system in approving applicants to operate sites that propose to serve the same area or the same enrolled children:
  - (i) Public or nonprofit private school food authorities;
  - (ii) Public agencies and private nonprofit organizations that have demonstrated successful program performance in a prior year;
  - (iii) New public agencies; and
  - (iv) New private nonprofit organizations.
  - (v) If two or more sponsors that qualify under paragraph (b)(5)(ii) of this section apply to serve the same area, the State agency must determine on a case-by-case basis which sponsor or sponsors it will select to serve the needy children in the area. The State agency should consider the resources and capabilities of each applicant.

7 CFR 225.6(b)(5)

#### SFSP Reimbursement

#### Maximum Rate Per Meal-SFSP Effective January 1, 2020 – December 31, 2020

Type of Meal Served	Self-preparation or Rural Site	Other Types of Sites
Breakfast	\$2.3750	\$2.3300
Lunch/Supper	\$4.1525	\$4.0875
Supplement (Snack)	\$0.9775	\$0.9550

#### SFSP Meal Pattern: Breakfast and Lunch/Supper Requirements

	Component	<u>Minimum</u> Serving Size
Breakfast	Milk	1 cup
(offering of	Vegetable/Fruit	½ cup
3 components and 3 items)	Grain/Bread	1 serving
Lunch or	Milk	1 cup
Supper	Vegetable/Fruit	<sup>3</sup> / <sub>4</sub> cup, from 2 [or more] <u>different</u> choices
(offering of 4 components and 5 items)	Grain/Bread	1 serving
,	Meat/Meat Alternative	2 ounces (oz)

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#### SFSP Meal Pattern: Snack Requirements

	Component	Minimum Serving Size
Snack	Vegetable/Fruit	¾ cup (or 6 oz 100% juice)
(am or pm)	Grain/Bread	Bread – 1 slice
Soloet two of		Cornbread, Rolls, Muffin – 1 oz
Select <u>two</u> of the four		Cooked cereal – ½ cup
components in at least the		Cold, Dry Cereal – ¾ cup or 1 oz
minimum	Meat/Meat	1 oz
portion size each day	Alternate	
	Milk	1 cup

### Multi-Day Meal Service

When meals are provided for multiple days at one time during the declared emergency, the SFA must ensure the following:

- The meal time flexibility waiver has been submitted
- The non-congregate feeding waiver has been submitted
- The Parent/Guardian Pick-up Waiver has been submitted (if applicable)
- There must be an accurate production record and POS document for each meal
- Meals are claimed on the day the meals are designated to be eaten

#### Public Release Requirements

#### Applications

- Review Applications
- Requirements
- Sponsor Application
- ▶ Facility Application
- Letters
   Media Release Enrolled
   Media Release Open
   Health Inspection
- Submit Applications

- Upon submission of a 2020 SFSP Application (containing one facility-level application [per proposed site] and one sponsor-level application), sponsors will have access to the "Letters" function in the CNP website (found under the purple Summer Feeding tab [2] under applications).
- The "Letters" function (see screenshot to the left) provides sponsors with pre-populated documents for the following uses:
  - Media/Public Release (two options)
    - Media Release- Closed
    - Media Release Open
  - Health Inspection Request(s)/LDH Notification of SFSP Operations

#### **Accepted Forms of Media Promotion**

- As addressed in USDA's SFSP Administrative Guidance Book, acceptable forms of Media Promotion include, but are not limited to use of:
  - Local Newspapers
  - Local TV Stations
  - Local Radio Stations
  - Twitter/Facebook/Instagram

USDA's SFSP Handbooks can be accessed at the following link:

http://www.fns.usda.gov/sfsp/ handbooks

#### Other options exist as well, such as issuance of:

Mail outs/flyers to the community or to specified households (as in the case of CE-sites), text/phone notifications, and/or issuance of the release via the district's website

# Public Release Requirements – CE Sites

Here is a sample a SFSP Media Release for (Closed) Enrolled Sites

- For sponsors of CE-sites, issuance of a media release[s] that reach the entire community is <u>not</u> required.
- Instead, they may use one (or more) formats displayed on the previous slide to target households of enrolled children/students.

#### **News Release Enrolled Sites and Camps**

St Tammany Parish School System is participating in the Summer Food Service Program. Meals will be provided to all eligible children without charge. Acceptance and participating requirements for the program and all activities are the same for all regardless of race, color, national origin, sex, disability, age or reprisal or retaliation for prior civil rights activity in any program or activity conducted or funded by USDA, and there will be no discrimination in the course of the meal service. Meals will be provided at the sites and times as follows:

Site & Address	Operating Dates & Days	Meals & Times Served
Chahta-Ima Elementary School 27488 Pichon Rd .acombe LA 70445	9/8/2020 to 12/22/2020 Monday - Friday Closed on 11/3/2020, 11/25/2020, 11/26/2020, 11/27/2020	Breakfast 8:00 AM - 9:00 AM Lunch 11:00 AM - 12:45 PM
Clearwood Junior High School 130 Clearwood Dr Slidell LA 70458	9/8/2020 to 12/22/2020 Monday - Friday Closed on 11/3/2020, 11/25/2020, 11/26/2020, 11/27/2020	Breakfast 8:00 AM - 8:30 AM Lunch 11:15 AM - 12:45 PM

#### Non-Discrimination Statement

In accordance with Federal law and U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) civil rights regulations and policies, this institution is prohibited from discriminating on the basis of race, color, national origin, sex, age, disability, and reprisal or retaliation for prior civil rights activity. (Not all prohibited bases apply to all programs.)

Program information may be made available in languages other than English. Persons with disabilities who require alternative means of communication for program information (e.g., Braille, large print, audiotape, and American Sign Language) should contact the responsible State or local Agency that administers the program or USDA's TARGET Center at (202) 720-2600 (voice and TTY) or contact USDA through the Federal Relay Service at (800) 877-8339.

To file a program discrimination complaint, a complainant should complete a Form AD-3027, USDA Program Discrimination Complaint Form, which can be obtained online, at https://www.ocio.usda.gov/document/ad-3027, from any USDA office, by calling (866) 632-9992, or by writing a letter addressed to USDA. The letter must contain the complainant's name, address, telephone number, and a written description of the alleged discriminatory action in sufficient detail to inform the Assistant Secretary for Civil Rights (ASCR) about the nature and date of an alleged civil rights violation. The completed AD-3027 form or letter must be submitted to USDA by:

#### mail:

U.S. Department of Agriculture Office of the Assistant Secretary for Civil Rights 1400 Independence Avenue, SW Washington, D.C. 20250-9410;

#### fax

(833) 256-1665 or (202) 690-7442;

#### ema

program.intake@usda.gov.

This institution is an equal opportunity provider.

# Public Release Requirements – Open Sites

Here is a sample a
SFSP Media Release for
Open (includes RO)
Enrolled Sites

 For sponsors of open sites, use of multiple formats for notifying the community/public is encouraged. Any combination of the formats provided as examples are acceptable.

#### **News Release Open Sites**

The Lincoln Parish School Board is participating in the Summer Food Service Program. Meals will be provided to all eligible children without charge. Acceptance and participating requirements for the program and all activities are the same for all regardless of race, color, national origin, sex, disability, age or reprisal or retaliation for prior civil rights activity in any program or activity conducted or funded by USDA, and there will be no discrimination in the course of the meal service. Meals will be provided at the sites and times as follows:

Site & Address	Operating Dates & Days	Meals & Times Served
Choudrant High School 2555 Highway 80 Choudrant LA 71227	9/4/2020 to 12/18/2020 Monday - Friday Closed on 9/7/2020, 10/9/2020, 10/12/2020, 10/13/2020, 10/14/2020, 11/3/2020, 11/23/2020, 11/24/2020, 11/25/2020, 11/26/2020, 11/27/2020	Breakfast 7:30 AM - 8:00 AM Lunch 11:00 AM - 1:00 PM
Cypress Springs Elementary School 1040 Saratoga St Ruston LA 71270	9/4/2020 to 12/18/2020 Monday - Friday Closed on 9/7/2020, 10/9/2020, 10/12/2020, 10/13/2020, 10/14/2020, 11/3/2020, 11/23/2020, 11/24/2020, 11/25/2020, 11/26/2020, 11/27/2020	Breakfast 7:30 AM - 8:00 AM Lunch 11:00 AM - 1:00 PM
	9/4/2020 to 12/18/2020	

#### Non-Discrimination Statement

In accordance with Federal law and U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) civil rights regulations and policies, this institution is prohibited from discriminating on the basis of race, color, national origin, sex, age, disability, and reprisal or retaliation for prior civil rights activity. (Not all prohibited bases apply to all programs.)

Program information may be made available in languages other than English. Persons with disabilities who require alternative means of communication for program information (e.g., Braille, large print, audiotape, and American Sign Language) should contact the responsible State or local Agency that administers the program or USDA's TARGET Center at (202) 720-2600 (voice and TTY) or contact USDA through the Federal Relay Service at (800) 877-8339.

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#### nail:

U.S. Department of Agriculture
Office of the Assistant Secretary for Civil Rights
1400 Independence Avenue, SW
Washington. D.C. 20250-9410:

#### fa

(833) 256-1665 or (202) 690-7442;

#### ema

program.intake@usda.gov.

### **Public Release Requirements**

- If a sponsor chooses to offer a combination of site types (i.e. CE-sites at Elementary Schools and Open sites at High Schools), the "Letters" function in the website will allow for the auto-population of both sets of site types.
  - Accessing the "Media Release- Open" form will populate site data for those sites identified via their SFSP Facility App as open or restricted-open (RO).
  - Accessing the "Media Release- Enrolled" form will populate site data for those sites identified via their SFSP Facility App as closed-enrolled (CE) sites.

#### Please note that:

Information contained in the Media Release can be copied/pasted into any other document (or letterhead) that the district wishes to use. The formatting should remain in place. This will allow additional comments/details to be added, should additional clarification be needed (i.e. instruction for virtual student meal pickup).

## Operating Calendars – SFSP Facility Applications (REV 0)

- To assist sponsors transitioning to the SFSP with completion of their Online SFSP Applications, LDOE DNS has worked with its programmers to import a prototype operating calendar into each <u>initial</u> (revision 0) facility application.
- The prototype operating calendar reflects a start date of September 1<sup>st</sup> and an end date of December 18<sup>th</sup>. Note that this <u>can be adjusted</u> to reflect each district's custom operating schedule (i.e. holidays/non-operating days can be added, end date can be extended, etc.). To edit, do not utilize the "build calendar" feature, but rather click on "EDIT" next to each meal type that displays, then point and click on dates that need to be removed and/or added. Click on "UPDATE" to then lock in the changes.
- <u>Note that</u>: Green highlighting/shading in operational calendars reflects operating days; whereas, white highlighting/shading reflects <u>non</u>-operating days.

# Operating Calendars – SFSP Facility Applications (REV 1 & BEYOND)

- For school sites that have already operated the SFSP in 2020 (i.e. in the spring and/or summer), the template/prototype operating calendar will <u>not</u> appear as described on the previous slide.
- To add in September December operating dates, this will need to be done manually (by editing the applicable operating calendar[s] and pointing/clicking to add in dates, then clicking "update").
- If the sponsor can build one complete SFSP Operating Calendar in one of its revision applications, there will be no need to manually complete this process for the other revision sites. Instead, a "sponsor comment" can be added to those apps requesting for the State Agency (SA) to duplicate the dates contained in the application that was manually completed. SA Staff will complete this process for sponsors after submission of their application.
- Please do not remove previously approved operating dates for any of the sites that operated in the spring and/or summer months.

### **Adding SFSP School Sites**

- If the district has access to a 2020 SFSP Application but does not see all of its operating school sites appear in that application, they will need to contact Shanna Legier (at <a href="mailto:shanna.legier@la.gov">shanna.legier@la.gov</a>) to request for the school sites that do not appear to be added.
- This email will need to include a listing of sites, by name (as listed/recognized in the Schedule A), where online access is needed.
- The addition of school sites under a SFA's online SFSP application does <u>not</u> require completion of a jotform/site info sheet.

### Accommodating Students with Disabilities: Special Diets

- Schools will be required to accommodate special diets for those students with a letter signed by a medical authority at the start of school year 2020-2021.
- A list of Non-Dairy substitutes for milk were provided by USDA.
  These options meet the requirements for those students with
  disabilities where milk substitutions are required. Some of these
  options are not shelf stable. Please refer to labeling and
  manufacturers guidelines for details on refrigeration and safe food
  handling.



#### P-EBT

- The 2019-2020 P-EBT Application Reopened
- Open from September 8-September 29 at 5:00pm
- Eligible families who <u>did not</u> apply for the P-EBT program in May and June can take advantage of the second application window
- P-EBT is not related to loss from Hurricane Laura. Eligibility is solely based on student participation in the free or reduced-price meal program (or in a CEP school).
- The <u>online application (will open in new tab)</u> submitted by the family must exactly match the information on file with the school system in order for the application to successfully submit.
- For more information, consult a list of <u>Frequently Asked Questions (will open in new tab)</u> or contact the LAHelpU Customer Service Center at <u>LaHELPU.DCFS@la.gov (will open in new tab)</u> or 1-888-524-3578.

# QUESTIONS?

Contact the LDOE Division of Nutrition Support at childnutritionprograms@la.gov